

RHIZOSPHERE BIOTECHNOLOGY: PLANT GROWTH – RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT

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PREFACE

All the chapters of this book constitute the proceedings of the National Symposium entitled “Rhizosphere Biotechnology/Microbes – Retrospects and prospects” held on 29-30 November, 2004, at University, Department of Botany, T.M. Bhagalpur University. The symposium was cosponsored by Ministry of Environment and Forests and Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India, New Delhi and T.M. Bhagalpur University, Bhagalpur. A galaxy of scientists and experts from different parts of the country participated in the symposium and exchanged their views on “Role of microbes inhabiting in plant roots as symbionts or asymbionts in the surrounding rhizosphere soil on the agricultural growth of the country”. The delegates, who participated in the symposium, orally presented their contributions related to Rhizosphere microbial world. Dr. Anupam Varma, National Professor, IARI, New Delhi was the chief guest of the symposium and in his address he correlated the health of the plant with the health of human population. Prof. P.C. Patanjali, Vice-Chancellor of the University inaugurated the symposium and in his inaugural speech he emphasized that the researches are being conducted in the lab to be moved to the doors of the farmers. Prof. J.V.V. Dogra, Head, University, Dept. of Botany, welcomed the participants and enlightened them with the close relationship between microbial metabolites of rhizosphere zone to plant growth. More than 20 scientists including Agric Microbiologists, Microbial physiologists

and Experts of related field actively participated in the academic deliberation and contributed their lecture papers for publication in the Proceeding Volume.

The proceeding includes Special lectures, Review articles and Research papers in the form of Book chapters covering almost all aspects of focal theme of the symposium, which will be of immense utility to the researchers, P.G. students and to those working in allied field.

The editor and his team express their deep sense of gratitude to all the senior scientists who participated in the symposium and to all the faculty members of the department for providing encouragement and facilities for holding the symposium. We are also thankful to MoEF, DBT, New Delhi and T.M.B.U for providing the financial assistance.

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